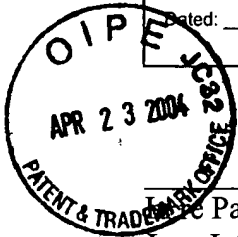


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV336628056US, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: 4/23/04 Signature: *Tia B. Zimmermann*
(Tia B. Zimmermann)

Docket No.: 373722001200
Client Ref: A012
(PATENT)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application of:
Jane LAM et al.

Application No.: 09/955,630

Art Unit: 2877

Filed: September 18, 2001

Examiner: K. Kianni

For: OPTICAL DEVICES FOR CONTROLLING
INSERTION LOSS

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This is in response to the non-final Office Action dated November 5, 2003 (Paper No. 5), for which a response was due on February 5, 2004. Filed herewith is a Petition and fee for a three months extension of time, thereby extending the deadline for response to May 5, 2004. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.